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North Hollywood Man to Stand Trial for Sexually Assaulting Four Girls

A North Hollywood man is scheduled to be arraigned today on a total of 13 counts charging him with sexually abusing four girls between the ages of 9 and 14, the Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On February 10, Simon RuizHernandez (dob 7/12/68) was ordered to stand trial on eight felony counts: one count each of aggravated sexual assault of a child, sodomy; sodomy by use of force, victim under age 14; and forcible rape, child victim under 14 years; two counts of lewd act upon a child under age 14; and three counts of continuous sexual abuse.

Deputy District Attorney Ranna Jahanshahi said an additional five felony counts were added: two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child, rape; and one count each of aggravated sexual assault of a child, oral copulation; aggravated sexual assault of a child, sexual penetration; and aggravated sexual assault of a child, sodomy.

Case LA090935 includes allegations of multiple victims and two of the counts include an allegation of sexual assault during the commission of a residential burglary.

Arraignment is scheduled today in Department F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

The alleged abuse occurred multiple times between 2003 and 2019 and the victims were the children of neighbors or family friends, according to evidence presented at the preliminary hearing.

If convicted as charged, RuizHernandez faces a possible maximum sentence of life in state prison. Bail is scheduled at \$2.8 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, North Hollywood Station.

<u>About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u>
Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.